What Does Participating Involve?

Each study uses a slightly different procedure allowing the individual sites to utilize their respective scientific strengths and expertise. However, all sites will include a physical examination as well as paper and pencil testing to access memory. You will be asked to answer questions about your mood and your sleep which can sometimes be affected in Parkinson's disease (PD). You will also be asked to do a "scratch and sniff" smell test because many people with PD have lost some sense of smell. You will be asked to give a blood sample and, in most cases, a sample of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), the fluid that bathes the brain. CSF can be sampled with a simple, straightforward procedure via the lower back. People with PD, as well as people without PD, are needed for the study so we can do a comparison between them.

Why Should You Consider Participating?

By participating, you may help us identify treatments that will slow down PD and introduce them to the clinic more quickly.

.

"The main purpose of this program is to enable academics or industry to come up with therapies that slow down the progression of Parkinson's disease." Dr. Walter Koroshetz, Deputy Director, NINDS, NIH

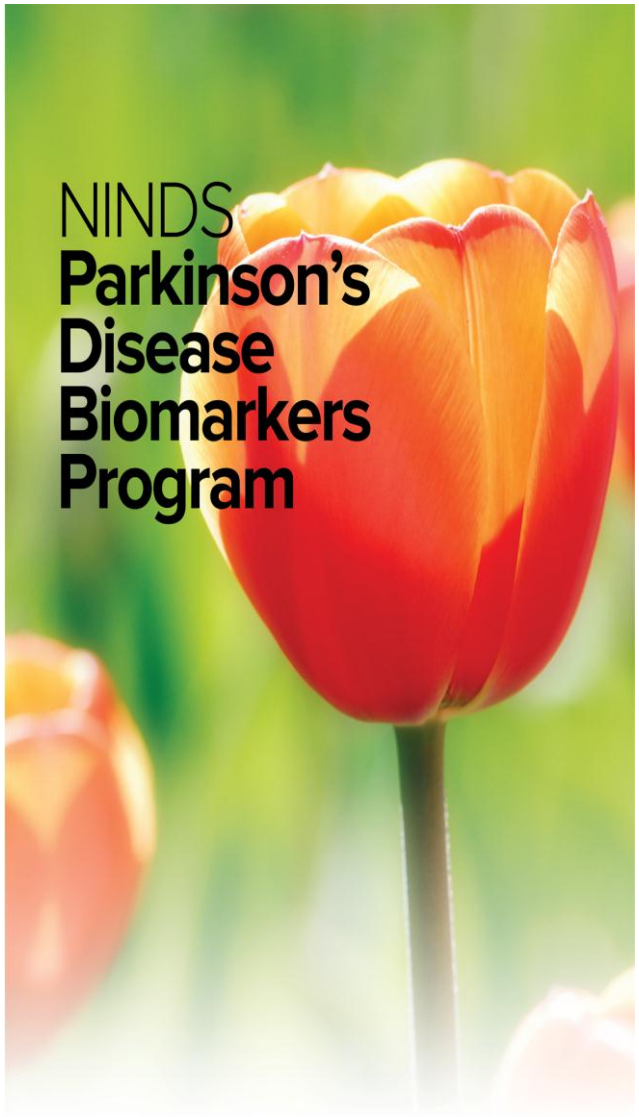
To learn more about the projects and investigators involved in NINDS PDBP, please visit the PDBP website: https://pdbp.ninds.nih.gov/

Projects are listed under About →Projects We Support: https://pdbp.ninds.nih.gov/jsp/projects.jsp

A description of the program and goals are under About → Who We Are, and includes an interview with Dr. Walter Koroshetz, Deputy Director, NINDS, NIH.: https://pdbp.ninds.nih.gov/jsp/who-we-are.jsp

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND STROKE

6001 Executive Blvd.
Bethesda, MD 20892
P 301-402-6781
PDBP-HELP@mail.nih.gov
pdbp.ninds.nih.gov



National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

PARTICIPATING SITES

NORTHEAST:

Ana Trisini-Lipsanopoulos
Harvard Biomarkers Program
Email: ATRISINI@PARTNERS.ORG
tel: 617-768-8590

Raghda Clayiff
Penn State University-Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Email: rclayiff@hmc.psu.edu
tel: 717-531-0003 x287082

Nadine Yoritomo
Johns Hopkins University
Email: nyorito@jhmi.edu
tel: 410-616-2822

SOUTHEAST:

Amy Snyder
University of Florida
Email: amysnyder@ufl.edu
tel: 352-294-1684

Rachel Clark, RN
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Email: rclarkrn@uab.edu
tel: 205-996-2647

SOUTH:

Heather Askew
UT Southwestern Medical Center
Email:
Heather.askew@utsouthwestern.edu
tel: 214.648.0212

WEST:

Emily Ashmore
University of Washington, Seattle
Email: eashmore@u.washington.edu
tel: 206-277-6334

Parkinson's Disease Biomarkers Program (PDBP) Research

The PDBP is a group of researchers, doctors, and their teams investigating Parkinson's disease across the United States. Our goal is to discover **biomarkers** that help us design better clinical trials for treatments to slow the progression of **Parkinson's disease**. The researchers chosen for this program underwent a rigorous application process via the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). A committee of experts determined the research being conducted at these sites to be the most promising of the proposed studies. The studies aim to discover biomarkers through individual research as well as through collaborations with other PDBP researchers. PDBP researchers will also share our findings with other PD scientists through the creation of a shared data set that can be used as a valuable resource to accelerate therapeutic development for Parkinson's disease.

What Are Biomarkers?

A biomarker, or biological marker, is an indicator of a biological state which can be used to diagnose or measure progression of a disease state. Examples of biomarkers for other diseases include cholesterol (as a marker of heart disease) and blood pressure (as a marker of heart disease or stroke risk). No biomarkers currently exist for Parkinson's disease. Therefore, the goal of PDBP is to identify biological markers which may help to identify treatments to slow the progression of Parkinson's disease.

Current treatments in Parkinson's disease treat symptoms, but do not slow down the disease. Treatments that slow the course of the disease are called **neuroprotective** treatments. While there are proposed biomarkers, none are yet confirmed. The PDBP allows the proposed biomarkers to be tested, validated, and ultimately, brought to the FDA for approval. That will allow the testing of neuroprotective treatments which will protect the brain from the effects of Parkinson's disease.